

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

It is stated that the Congregation of Rites at Rome has reported adversely to the canonization of Joan of Arc.

It is reported that the Ohio Open Communion Baptist Association has increased to 134 churches and 7,000 members.

Two Mormon missionaries from the United States arrived in Tasmania the latter part of January. They commenced their mission by holding services in Hobart Town.

According to *The Boston Congregationalist*, the Rev. D. Bevan is likely to be called to the Brick Presbyterian Church, on Murray Hill, and will probably accept the call.

A proclamation has been recently issued by the Sultan of Zanzibar, forbidding the passage through his territory of slave caravans on their way to the Soudan coast.

Only one-quarter of the 862 Baptist churches in the State of New-York have contributed to the Home Mission Society or the Church during the fiscal year 1875-1876.

Two chapels for the use of the Summer visitors are to be built at Rye Beach, N. H. One is to be a Protestant Episcopal, and the other a Union chapel.

One hundred and thirty Mennonite families, recently from Russia, have settled in the neighborhood of Mount Olive, Cottontown County, Minn. Among the names are five preachers.

On Palm Sunday (April 9) between eighty and ninety Roman Catholic churches, twenty-two of them in the diocese of New-York, were supplied with real palms. They were obtained from Charleston, S. C.

The Alumni of Princeton Theological Seminary will hold their annual meeting April 25. A large attendance is anticipated. Papers will be read reviewing the work of the seminary during its entire history.

It is announced that the Rev. A. C. Kittredge of the Third Presbyterian Church of Chicago has received a call to the church on Madison and Fifty-seventh-st., of which the Rev. Dr. Gause was formerly pastor.

Bethany College, in Western Virginia, founded by Alexander Campbell, is likely to be lost to the Christian denomination for want of means to meet a claim of \$50,000 against it. A strong appeal for help is made to its alumni and friends.

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Louisville, Ky., April 6, a committee was appointed to devise a system of cooperation for the distribution of the works of the Presbyterian Board of Publication in the mountain districts of the state.

It is stated that the Centennial Commission has given to the Pennsylvania Bible Society the right to build a Bible Pavilion in the Centennial Exhibition grounds for the purpose of circulating the Scriptures in all languages which will be represented at the exhibition.

The annual convention of the Hebrew Board of Delegates will be held in the rooms of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, Philadelphia, on Sunday, May 21. The Board was organized in 1859. The congregation throughout the country will elect their delegates this month.

The Chinese chapel at Virginia City, which was destroyed by the great fire of last October, is to be rebuilt, the money having been given for the purpose. A night school for Chinese is to be connected with the mission, which is under the care of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The thirty-seventh session of the English Old Testament Revision Company was held March 24. The revisers took into consideration the suggestions of the American Committee upon the book of Deuteronomy, and carried on the revision of Jeremiah as far as the 21st verse of the 44th chapter.

According to the English Baptist Handbook for 1876, the statistics of the denomination in England are as follows: Churches, 2,620; temples, 3,354; parsons in charge, 1,867; members, 263,729; Sunday-school scholars, 572,342. These figures show an increase of 8,731 members and 20,318 scholars.

The Christian Colportage Association of England, during 1875, sold 100,000 of its 10-cent paperbacks, 5,712 Bibles, 76,000 books, and 45,000 periodicals. Nine-tenths of this printed matter was sold to poor persons, principally at fairs, markets, and in public-houses. The Society now employs 28 colporters.

The visitation of the towns of Maine by delegates from the Young Men's Christian Association is still going on, and will be continued through the month of May. More than 700 persons have been engaged throughout the State in the work. District Conventions will be held during the summer.

It is stated that the King of Ashantie has written to the English Wesleyans, requesting them to resume their mission in his capital. One of the Wesleyan missionaries in Western Africa is to go to Coomassie to make the necessary arrangements. The climate of the town is said to be much healthier for Europeans than that of the coast.

The second annual meeting of the Michigan Unitarian Conference began at Kalamazoo April 4. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Brooks Herford of Chicago upon "The Christ of the Gospel and the Christ of the creeds." Upon the second day of the session addresses were delivered upon "The Priestly Office" and "The Spiritual Training of Children."

The subscription in Great Britain for the endowment fund of the proposed Bishopric of Cornwall now amounts to £21,000. The sum necessary for the endowment is £20,000. Since 1840, £152,000 have been raised in Cornwall for the building and restoration of Anglican churches, and 181 such churches have been either built or restored during this time.

The Church of England is making arrangements to send a missionary expedition to Lake Nyassa, similar to the Scottish mission expedition now at the lake. A boat for the navigation of the lake is partly built, and a medical missionary and some mechanics have been engaged. The entire amount of money needed for the expedition has not yet been subscribed.

The receipts of the Dutch Reformed Foreign Mission Board to April 7 were \$45,552. The Board will need \$24,500 additional by the 2d of May in order to meet the appropriations of the fiscal year, which amount to \$70,000. The receipts of the American Bible Society for March were \$66,880 and for the year up to March 31 were \$627,188. The volumes issued to the same date were 824,428.

The Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, upon the last day of its session, April 6, passed a series of resolutions upon the observance of the Sabbath. In these the Conference expressed its approval of the Sunday closing of the Centennial Exhibition, and condemned the Sunday exhibitions of the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens and the running of Sunday excursion trains to the Centennial grounds.

There are in Boston seven churches for colored people, four Baptist and three Methodist. Dissensions have arisen in the Joy Street Baptist Church, which have led to the withdrawal of a portion of the members and the formation of a new body. The Joy Street Church was founded in 1803. In the days of slavery it was the great gathering place of the colored people of the city, and was often called their Faical Hall.

The tombstone to the memory of the daughter of the Rev. Mr. Keel, Wesleyan minister, has been finally placed in the parish churchyard at Weston Ferry, England. The public fund for the payment of the legal expenses of the defendant in the other noted ecclesiastical suit, which has just been settled, that of Jenkins v. Cook, now exceeds £1,200. Mr. Jenkins, the plaintiff, has issued a request for public subscriptions toward his expenses.

In the 620 lighthouses and 23 lightships of the United States no provision has been made by the Government to furnish the keepers and their families with reading. The American Bible Society has accordingly appropriated 200 Bibles for these stations. An appeal is now made for contributions of good books in all departments of literature, with a view to the foundation of lighthouse libraries. The clerk of the Lighthouse Board, Mr. A. B. Johnson, will receive and apply all donations sent for this purpose.

A call has been issued by the Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church for a convention to assemble in Baltimore on the second Friday of May, 1877, for the purpose of making such changes in the constitution and discipline of the church as may be necessary in order to consummate the proposed union with the "Methodist" Church. It will be necessary for two-thirds of the Methodist Protestant Conferences to unite in the call, in order to make it valid. The basis of union has already been agreed upon by a joint commission of the two churches.

The translations from the sacred books of the world, which are to be edited by Max Müller, will according to *The London Academy*, be divided into six sections: (1) Books illustrative of the religion of the Brahmins (Sanskrit). (2) Buddhist books (Pali and Sanskrit). (3) Books illustrating the religion of Zoroaster (Zenda). (4) Books illustrating the religion of Confucius (Chinese). (5) Books illustrating the religion of the followers of Lee (Chinese). (6) Books illustrating Mohammedanism (Arabic). Dr. Legge is to assist in the Chinese translations. Prof. Cowell in the Sanskrit, and Prof. Calder in the Pali.

At Lowell, Mass., on April 6, Resolutions were passed requesting the General Conference to so alter the book of discipline as to allow each Annual Conference to determine the number of presiding elders' districts; and that each Annual Conference be permitted to determine the number of visits every year to be made by the pre-

siding elders to each charge; and that each Annual Conference be allowed to elect its presiding elders, leaving them in the hands of the Bishop presiding at the Conference for assignment to districts, unless the imperative demands of the charge required that he be appointed to some other work.

The April number of *The Baptist Missionary Magazine* gives the following figures respecting the foreign missionary societies of the United States: During the year 1875 the amount received by the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions was \$408,620; by the Presbyterian Board, \$40,718; by the Methodist Board, \$300,000; by the Baptist Missionary Union, \$241,970. The number of native members in the churches of the American Board, omitting the Hawaiian churches, there are 11,546 native members; in those of the Presbyterian Board, 6,962 members; in those of the Methodist Board, 17,754 members; in those of the Baptist Missionary Union, 55,567 members.

The Rev. A. B. Earle, the evangelist, is now holding revival meetings in Buffalo, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association of that city. His services began April 7. The public interest in the preaching of the Rev. Mr. Hammond continues unabated in Washington. In addition to his meetings at Washington, the first was held in the High Street Baptist Church April 10, Mr. Hammond being present. Others are to follow, at which Mr. Hammond or some of the Christian workers in Washington will attend. The Rev. A. P. Graves is holding several meetings daily at Mariontown, Iowa. Through his influence a Young Men's Christian Association has been formed in the town.

M. Louis Blane and a number of other Radical deputies in the French Assembly have given notice that they intend to bring in an amendment to the Budget, cutting off all pensions, grants, and salaries to all ecclesiastics and religious bodies. Mgr. Desplouyn, the Bishop of Orleans, has written a public letter to a member of the French Assembly, in which he protests against the recent declaration of M. Waddington, the Minister of Public Instruction, that the excessive right of granting degrees should be restored to the State. Mgr. Desplouyn considers that the Republic has identified itself with hostility to religion. M. Waddington introduced his bill, annulsing that clause of the recent University Education Law which allows free faculties to grant degrees, in the Chamber of Deputies March 24.

Two ecclesiastical bills are at present before the Russian Landtag. One provides for the supervision by the State of the management of the diocesan property of the Roman Catholic Church. This bill has been rendered necessary by the withdrawal by deposit bishops of the diocesan funds, the Bishop of Breslau taking with him to Austria £15,000 of the diocesan money. The other measure refers to the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Its purpose is to strengthen the position of the King as the head of the Church. It is done by a process of legislation necessary to a declaration of spiritual from the Culm Ministers necessary, before it can pass by a plenary, on the General Assembly, can be had before the King for his sanction. Much opposition has been aroused by this measure. It is stated that Dr. Fuhr will resign if the bill is not withdrawn.

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